

1) Queen Victoria

Queen Victoria ruled the British Empire for a long time—64 years!

Queen Victoria married a man called Albert. She really loved him. Albert died a few years later. The queen was so upset after he died that she only wore black clothes and looked very miserable in pictures and paintings.

Lots of changes happened during Queen Victoria's reign (her time as queen) such as changes in law to improve people's lives (like free education for children) and inventions (like telephones, cameras and bicycles) to make life easier.



The Victorians

Knowledge

Organiser

3) Wealthy Victorian children



Wealthy Victorian children had very different lives to poor Victorian children.

Children from rich families lived in large houses and had wooden toys like rocking horses and toy soldiers.



Before school became free to everyone, parents had to pay for their child's education. So, only rich children learnt to read, write and count.

Servants called **maids** did all the household chores like cooking and cleaning, so the children could spend time learning and playing.



Wealthy children wore expensive clothes and had enough food to eat.



2) Victorian School

For many years, only children of rich families went to school or were taught at home by a teacher called a governess. Poor children couldn't go to school as they had to work to earn money. In 1893, the law changed to allow all children to go to school for free.



Victorian school was strict with lots of rules. Naughty children had harsh punishments, such as writing lines or wearing a dunces' cap. Sometimes, children would be beaten with a stick called a cane.

Learning equipment

Teachers used a blackboard with chalk. Young children would write on mini blackboards called **slate**. Older children used ink and paper. For Maths, children would use an abacus.



Classrooms were tightly packed with lots of children. Sometimes, there would be over 100 children



in

the same room! Children had to be silent all the time and were not allowed to ask questions.

4) Poor Victorian children



Children from poor families lived in cramped, dirty houses. Sometimes, they were so poor that they lived on the streets.

Poor children did not have enough food to eat and had to wear old clothes that were dirty and ripped.

Poor children had no toys so they had to make their own from scraps of material.

Poor children had to work to help earn money. So, they could not go to school. The jobs were always dirty and dangerous.

In 1893, the law changed to allow all children to go to school for free.

5) Poor children's jobs

Many Victorian children from poor families had to work to earn a living. Jobs were dirty and dangerous, such as:

- sweeping chimneys,
- cleaning machines in factories,
- selling buttons, matches or flowers on the streets,
- working on farms
- working down mines.



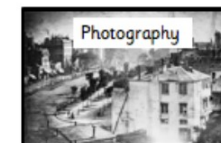
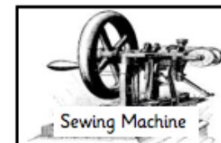
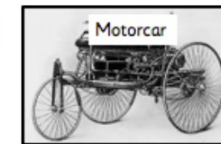
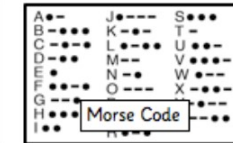
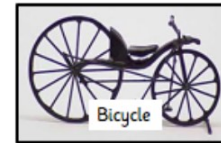
Many poor children had to beg or steal so they could eat.



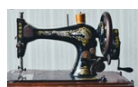
In 1893, the law changed so all children could go to school for free.

6) Victorian Inventions

The Victoria era was alive with inventions! All these items were invented during the Victorian times:



Victorian history timeline of inventions



1837	1843	1846	1851	1852	1872	1876	1885
Victoria is crowned Queen	Christmas cards (Sir Henry Cole)	sewing machine (Elias Howe)	ice cream (Carlo Gatti)	flushing toilets	type-writers (Sholes and Glidden) FA Cup Final Bicycles	telephone (Alexander G Bell)	motor car (Carl Benz)